

ST. CHARLES



PARISH

“...the health of a community is a shared responsibility of many entities, organizations and interests in the community, including health services delivery organizations, public health agencies, other public and private entities and the people of a community.”

– Institute of Medicine. 1996. Healthy Communities: New Partnerships for the Future of Public Health. National Academy Press. p. 12



ST.
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St. Charles Parish

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History¹

Created on March 31, 1807, St. Charles is one of the oldest settlements in the state. When John Law's colonists, Germans from the Alsace-Lorraine region, failed in Arkansas, some were persuaded to settle on granted lands in what is now St. Charles Parish, later referred to as the "German Coast."

Bayou des Allemands is a reminder today of John Law's great colonization scheme. The German population soon mixed with French settlers from New Orleans.

Hahnville was named for Gov. Michael

Hahn, who lived in the parish after the Civil War. Confederate General Richard Taylor was also a resident.

Culture and Recreation³

Laced by swamps, bayous and lakes, and bisected by the Mississippi River, St. Charles Parish is a natural or water sports of any kind, from fishing to water skiing to boat riding. Seafood is a mainstay at parish fairs and festivals, including the Louisiana Catfish Festival in Des Allemands, Boutte's Alligator Festival and the Destrehan Plantation Fall Festival. Visitors get a taste of what southern Louisiana is all about. Cajun bands set feet a-dancing, and frequent demonstrations provide insight into the history of the area. Memorialized in story and song, Louisiana's way of life is legendary. It is seen at the restored Destrehan Plantation and Ormond Plantation, on serene drives through fishing villages like Bayou Gauche, and, as the sun sets, in the beautiful cypress swamps near the mouth of the Bonnet Carre Spillway.



Parish Seat¹ Hahnville¹

Major Cities (over 5,000 population)²

Destrehan CDP*

1990 8,031

1997 (estimate) N/A

St. Rose CDP*

1990 6,259

1997 (estimate) N/A

**Census Designated Place*

Parish Population²

1990 42,437

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1997 (estimate)	47,308
Breakdown of 1996 population (estimates) ⁶	
White	73%
African American	26%
Other	1%
Male	49%
Female	51%
Population age 0-4	9%
Populations age 65 & over	8%

Geography and Statistics²

Average elevation	21 ft.
Land area in square miles	448
Water area in square miles ⁴	126.5

Climate²

Average temperatures	
Annual	70°
January	59°
July	83°
Annual average rainfall	54 in.

Labor Force (1995)¹

Civilian	21,400
Employed	21,000
Unemployed	1,400
Unemployment	6.4%

Agriculture¹

Sugarcane; petrochemical.

Colleges/Universities²

(within one hour commute)

New Orleans

Delgado Community College; Dillard University; Louisiana State University Medical Center; Loyola University; Notre Dame Seminary School of Theology; Our Lady of Holy Cross College; Southern University; Tulane University; University of New Orleans; Xavier University

Thibodaux

Nicholls State University

Educational Attainment (1990)⁷

Less than 5th grade	2.6%
High school graduate or higher	74.0%
Some college or higher	38.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	14.8%

Major Employers (Products) and Number of Employees²

Private Employers

Shell Norco Manufacturing (Chemical Company)	1,635
Union Carbide Taft Plant (Chemicals and Plastics)	1,150
Entergy Operations, Inc.--Waterford (Nuclear Power)	942

Public Employers

St. Charles Parish School Board (Education)	1,375
St. Charles Parish Council (Government)	412
St. Charles Parish Hospital (Healthcare)	397

Poverty and Income

Persons in poverty (1995) ⁷	12.7%
Children under age 18 in poverty ⁷	18.1%
Per capita income (1996) ⁸	\$20,672



**ST.
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Hammond
Southeastern Louisiana

References

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- ³ Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information <http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism.htm>
- ⁴ Police Jury Association of Louisiana. <http://www.lpgov.org/>
- ⁵ State Library of Louisiana. keyword: directories <http://smt.state.lib.la.us/>
- ⁶ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. Population Estimates. 1998. keywords: parish name <http://www.census.gov/datamap/www/22.html>
- ⁷ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. keywords: people, poverty, small area income and poverty estimates <http://www.census.gov>
- ⁸ U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. 1999. keywords: economics and statistical administration <http://www.doc.gov>

Public Libraries⁵ 4



Region 1

Jefferson
Orleans
Plaquemines
St. Bernard

Region 2

Ascension
East Baton Rouge
East Feliciana
Iberville
Pointe Coupee
West Baton Rouge
West Feliciana

Region 3

Assumption
Lafourche
St. Charles
St. James
St. John
St. Mary
Terrebonne

Region 4

Acadia
Evangeline
Iberia
Lafayette
St. Landry
St. Martin
Vermilion

Region 5

Allen
Beauregard
Calcasieu
Cameron
Jefferson Davis

Region 6

Avoyelles
Catahoula
Concordia
Grant
LaSalle
Rapides
Vernon
Winn

Region 7

Bienville
Bossier
Caddo
Claiborne
DeSoto
Natchitoches
Red River
Sabine
Webster

Region 8

Caldwell
East Carroll
Franklin
Jackson
Lincoln
Madison
Morehouse
Ouachita
Richland
Tensas
Union
West Carroll

Region 9

Livingston
St. Helena
St. Tammany
Tangipahoa
Washington